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E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KNNP MNUC PARM PREL AORC CS

SUBJECT: COSTA RICA AGREES ON IRAN, BUT SEES NO OPPORTUNITY

FOR DIALOGUE

REF: SECSTATE 95073

- 11. (SBU) Costa Rican Foreign Minister Bruno Stagno told us on September 21 that while the GOCR agrees with our position regarding Iran's nuclear program (reftel), it does not anticipate any opportunity to communicate this message to Iran in the near future. The GOCR does not have diplomatic relations with Iran, is not part of the non-aligned movement, and does not have any planned meetings with the GOI at the UNGA or the General Conference of the IAEA. Stagno also used the opportunity to express his dissatisfaction with more lenient US policies on nuclear proliferation, in particular USG policies towards Israeli, Indian, and Pakistani nuclear programs.
- 12. (SBU) Comment: Costa Rica, which abolished its military in 1949, has widely called for the complete demilitarization of Latin America and is deeply interested in international non-proliferation and disarmament issues. As such, Stagno's light criticism of USG policies is not unexpected. However, the GOCR remains committed to international (and USG) efforts to oppose Iran's nuclear weapons program. That said, as Stagno admitted, they have no real ability to influence the GOI on this, or any other, matter.

BRENNAN